

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Albert Allen House Survey Number: M:29-46
Project: Road Widening--MD189: from Glen Rd to Wooten Pkwy, Mont Co Agency: SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name Date

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended X

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The Albert Allen House is located at the southeast intersection of Woodford and Falls Road, in Montgomery County, MD. The property, originally part of a small 23-1/4-acre farm complex, today includes the primary residence on a large lot with no associated outbuildings. The property is not considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

According to the MHT form, the Albert Allen House was built ca. 1883 by Albert Allen who purchased the tract of land in March of that year. The two-story, three-bay frame dwelling remained in the Allen family until around 1923. The dwelling stands as a representative example of a late 19th-century rural vernacular dwelling that lacks the architectural distinctiveness necessary to qualify it for listing on the National Register. Further, since the dwelling was surveyed in 1979, a large two-story addition has been appended to the side and rear of the main dwelling, overwhelming the original massing of the house and compromising the building's integrity. The property thus does not qualify for listing under Criterion C. The property is not known to have associations with persons or events significant to our past and is thus not eligible under Criterion A or B.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance

Prepared by: Rita Suffness, Cultural Resources Group Leader, SHA amendment to the MHT form; 1996
MHT form prepared by Mark Walston and Eileen McGuckian, 1979.

Kimberly Prothro Williams September 5, 1996
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: X yes no not applicable

Rita E. Kuntz 9/6/96
Reviewer, NR program Date

mg

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Eastern Shore	(all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Shore	(Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Piedmont	(Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Maryland	(Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Paleo-Indian	10000-7500 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early Archaic	7500-6000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middle Archaic	6000-4000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Late Archaic	4000-2000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early Woodland	2000-500 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middle Woodland	500 B.C. - A.D. 900
<input type="checkbox"/>	Late Woodland/Archaic	A.D. 900-1600
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contact and Settlement	A.D. 1570-1750
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rural Agrarian Intensification	A.D. 1680-1815
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural-Industrial Transition	A.D. 1815-1870
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industrial/Urban Dominance	A.D. 1870-1930
<input type="checkbox"/>	Modern Period	A.D. 1930-Present
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown Period (<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> historic)	

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Subsistence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Settlement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Political
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demographic
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Adaptation

IV. Historic Period Themes:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government/Law
<input type="checkbox"/>	Military
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Educational/Cultural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: BuildingHistoric Environment: RuralHistoric Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling

Known Design Source: _____

M29-46
Albert Allen House
Montgomery County, MD

Continuation Sheet

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes: Agriculture
 Architecture

Resource Type:
 Category: Building
 Historic Environment: Suburban
 Historic Functions and Uses: Domestic/single dwelling/residence
 Known Design Source: None

15. Acreage 4.84 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 29/46

MAGI#

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Albert Allen House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Woodford and Falls Road

CITY, TOWN

Potomac

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Farid Srour

Telephone #: 983-1370

STREET & NUMBER

10209 Sorrel Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Potomac

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20854

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 2858

Folio #: 588

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:29-46

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This ell-shaped frame farmhouse faces northwest to Falls Road. Its original novelty siding is covered with insul-brick.

The main block is 2½ stories high, and is three bays by one bay. The foundation is of parged fieldstone. The northwest (front) facade has a center gable with returned cornice and a diamond-shaped ventilator. Windows are two-over-two double hung, and there is a central brick chimney in this section. Across the front of the house is an enclosed front porch with shed roof; the porch has a door on its southwest facade. The northeast gable end has two windows, one on each floor, and the southwest gable end is blank; however, on the southwest facade, the cornice line is extended one bay to the rear to include a large two-over-two second floor window and a smaller square window below.

The smaller block which squares off the house has an almost flat roof; it is two bays by one bay, two stories high, and sits upon brick piers. It has a brick chimney, six-over-six windows on each facade, and its novelty siding is also covered with insul-brick. There is an outside entrance with a small free-standing overhanging porch on the northwest facade. Across the entire southeast (rear) facade is a cement one-story addition with outside entrance.

Close to and just south of the house is an outbuilding, approximately 5' by 6'; it is covered with white novelty siding, and has a gable roof with thin columns supporting an overhang.

The house is situated on a large lot with some mature trees.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M: 29-46

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

1883

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

This farm house is representative of the late 19th century development around Potomac. The land on which this house sits was originally part of "the Resurvey on Part of Clewerwall". A 23 and 1/4 acre parcel was purchased by Albert W. Allen on March 10, 1883 from Darius Clagett and his wife, Henrietta Clagett.¹ The parcel was located on the eastern side of the Rockville to Great Falls Road, opposite the Potomac Methodist Episcopal Church. Albert Allen constructed the frame dwelling shortly after the date of conveyance.²

Around the year 1890, this section of Falls Road was relocated to the west leaving a small strip of land, between Allen's house and the new Falls Road, that was owned by the Potomac Church. Allen later purchased this small plot from the church.³

Allen died in 1916 and his wife Eliza in 1923. Subsequent to her death, their sons Walter, Thomas, and Forest Allen sold the house and land to the District National Bank of Washington.⁴ The bank went into receivership in the early 1930's, and on July 15, 1937, receiver Justus Wardell conveyed the house and 23 acres to Ragle O. Belt.⁵ Belt conveyed the property to Agnes Kirk on March 11, 1941, who one month later, on April 30, 1941, conveyed the property to the R. E. Latimer Land Co.⁶ On October 7, 1941, Mirza E. Brothers purchased the property from the Latimer Land Co.,⁷ and Brothers occupied the house until 1961, when he sold the dwelling and 5 acres to the present owner.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Land Records of Montgomery County, Deed EBP 30/224.
2. Montgomery County Sentinel, November 9, 1883.
3. Land Records, Op. Cit., Deed 364/391, land purchased Feb. 16, 1891; deed made Dec. 2, 1924.
4. Ibid., Deed 364/392, made Dec. 15, 1924
5. Ibid., Deed 671/488.
6. Ibid., Deed 820/260; 826/128.
7. Ibid., Deed 852/26 (Latimer to Brothers).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Montgomery County Land Records
 Montgomery County Equity Records
 Montgomery County Sentinel

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4.84 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mark Walston

Eileen McGuckian
 Arch. Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

January 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: ~~Maryland Historical Trust~~
~~The Shaw House, 21 State Circle~~
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~
~~(202) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
 Box 87, Stronghold
 Dickerson, Md. 20753
 (301) 926-4510

Addendum

Prepared by: Rita Suffness, SHA
August 1996

M 29-46
Albert Allen House
Montgomery County, MD

Continuation Sheet 7.1
Description

As described in 1979, this 1880's L-shaped frame farmhouse, originally clad with novelty siding, was covered with insul-brick by the late 1970's. It exhibits a cross gable interrupting the gable roof (paralleling the flank of the structure) and in the mid decades of the twentieth century had a full width porch along the northwest (entrance) facade. A full width concrete block one-story addition was located on the rear elevation, and a frame outbuilding off the southeast corner.

Currently there are no extant outbuildings. The size of the original building (minus porch, and assuming the concrete block addition was raised to a full two stories), not inconsiderable, has been rather overpowered by a very large, two and one-half story garage addition more than doubling the size of the original structure. A pre-fabricated bay window has been built into the rear elevation above a large frame deck. The entire structure has been clad with vinyl siding, and the original windows have all been replaced with vinyl pre-fabricated examples. The integrity of the Allen House had been severely compromised when it was evaluated by MNCPPC staff eighteen years ago and with the recent changes it is further compromised.

The Allen House is a standard I-house, which is usually one room deep and two stories tall, with three to five openings on each story. Chimneys are located on the interior of the gable ends, however, external chimneys are characteristic in the Chesapeake region. Usually, an I-house has a one-story porch running the length or nearly the length of the long side. On the interior, a central hall separates the two rooms on the first floor; the second floor contains either two or four sleeping chambers. Later examples of I-houses are three bays wide rather than five bays. Due to the narrowness of the main core, many I-houses have kitchen wings to the rear. By the mid-nineteenth century, as pre-cut lumber became increasingly available, frame construction became the norm. During the Victorian period, pre-cut detailing or a two-tiered porch was commonly grafted onto the traditional I-house. The I-form was popular into the early twentieth century, with examples appearing in catalogs of mass-produced suburban houses. The Allen House is a very typical frame I-house of the three-bay wide variety.

M 29-46
Albert Allen House
Montgomery County, MD

Continuation Sheet 8.1
Statement of Significance

Originally this farmhouse, in its unaltered state, might have been considered somewhat representative of the late nineteenth century development around Potomac. A small landholding (ca. 25 acres) was purchased by Allen in 1883 on which he constructed the present farmhouse. Originally set closer to the roadway, when MD 189 was re-aligned to the west, Allen increased his modest size parcel by purchasing the land that had constituted the original roadbed. Passing out of the Allen family by 1925, it fell into the possession of various holding companies and banks through the years until its recent purchase. In subsequent sales the land was decimated, and now contains only a few acres.

This structure no longer retains sufficient integrity to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It no longer retains integrity of design, as it does not exhibit a combination of recognizable elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of an historic property. Missing is the necessary integrity of design in such elements as the organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation and materials. The structure no longer reflects historic functions and technologies, found in historic properties, that include the structural system, massing, arrangement of spaces, pattern of fenestration, textures and colors of surface materials, type, amount and style of ornamental detailing, and arrangement and type of planting in a designed landscape.

In addition, the historical setting, the physical environment of a property, including the character of the place in which the property played its historical role, is also severely compromised. Missing all of its original outbuildings, in a landscape greatly modified with modern planting, the Allen House no longer retains any of the physical features that constitute the setting of a historic property which would convey a strong association with the past.

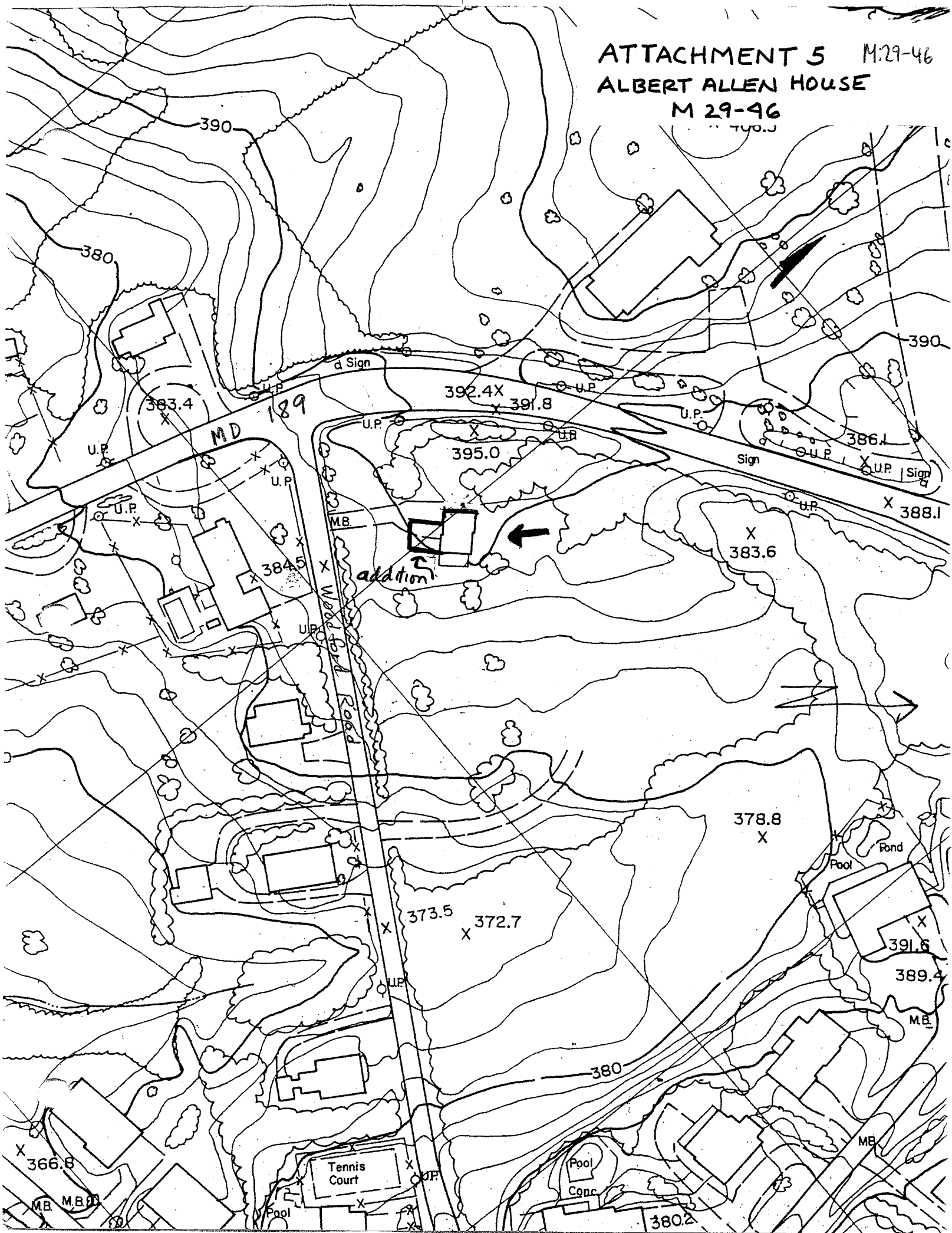
Likewise the Allen House does not retain integrity of materials, which are the physical elements that were combined during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. Integrity of materials is important in that the choice and combination of materials reveals the preferences of those who created the property and indicate the availability of particular types of materials and technologies. The Allen House does not retain the key exterior materials dating from the period of its historic significance.

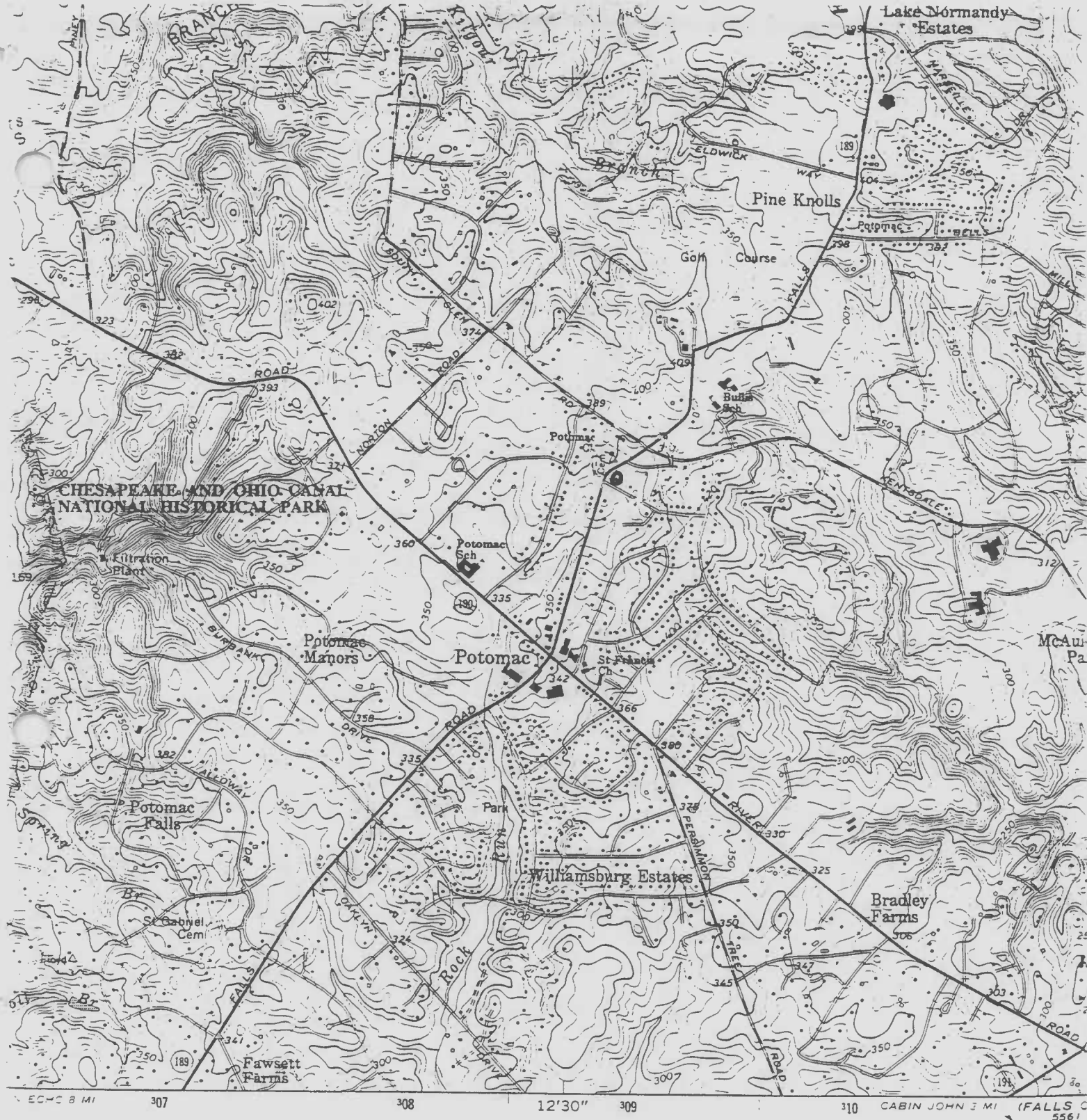
The Allen House does not retain the necessary level of integrity of workmanship to warrant inclusion in the National Register. Because of the many changes in the structure, with alterations and removal of original materials and features, it no longer illustrates artisans' labor and skill in constructing a building at a certain point in the past. The Allen House is lacking in that it cannot furnish evidence of the technology of a craft, illustrate the aesthetic principles of a historic period and reveal individual, local, regional, or natural application of both technological practices and aesthetic principles because of the deleterious changes that have been made to the structure.

Finally, the necessary level of integrity of two key features--feeling and association are missing. The Allen House does not express an aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It is lacking in its ability to convey a sense of historic character because of the absence of key physical features. It is also missing integrity of association because it is not sufficiently intact to convey the sense of a direct link between an important historic event or person or process to the observer through the presence of physical features that convey a property's historic character.

The Albert Allen House no longer retains enough integrity as a rural farmhouse located in a once rural section of Montgomery County. Because of the extensive changes to the fabric both of the building and its setting, it no longer retains enough **identity** as an historic farm to warrant inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

ATTACHMENT 5 M.29-46
ALBERT ALLEN HOUSE
M 29-46





MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FORM

LOCATIONAL MAP

SURVEY NO.: M: 29-46

PROPERTY NAME:

TOWN: POTOMAC

COUNTY: MONTGOMERY

QUADRANGLE: ROCKVILLE



N1 29.46

Alberta 46

2.5 - 4.5 in long

2.5 - 4.5 in long

2.5 - 4.5 in long

North Corner

1/6



1825-46

Albert Allen

Dr. Allen

R. Safford

ng at a station Hung Allen

North of Leaton

216



m29-46
 Albert Allen House
 Montgomery County, MD
 R. Sufferer 7/15/56
 Reg. at MD State Hwy
 Admin

Detail, n.w. Elevations
 3/6



m25-46

Albert Allen Hanna

Montrose, Colorado

He suffered 7/15/54

reg at N.W. State

Highway School

West Colorado

416



1029-46

Albert Allen H. C.

Montgomery County MD

Ruff. 2/15/56

reg. at MD State

Highway construction

South Corner

5/6



m 25-46
Albert Allen Hansen
Mont Couch MD
R Suffern 7/15/51
neg at MD State
Higher Administration
Southcoast SE
Elevated
6/6